

RECEIVED

1734

NOV 13 2002

NOV 14 2002

Patent

Case No.: 56731US002

TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EE10
TL 11/15/02

First Named Inventor: KUTA, LEROY A.

Application No.: 09/883144 Group Art Unit: 1734

Filed: June 15, 2001 Examiner: Unknown

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY APPLYING A FLYING SPLICING TAPE TO A ROLL OF SHEET MATERIAL

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

November 5, 2002

Date

Beth M. Lindblom

Signed by: Beth M. Lindblom

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449 citing references submitted for consideration by the Examiner. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to indicate that each reference has been considered.

Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)(1), I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Under 37 CFR § 1.704(d), I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

A copy of the Search Report from a foreign counterpart application is enclosed.

11/16/2002 11:16:48 000001 123759
100.0006
01 FC1806

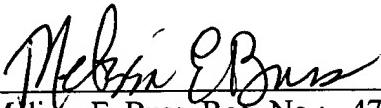
It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

November 5, 2002

By:


Melissa E. Buss, Reg. No.: 47,465
Telephone No.: 651/733-0649

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, MN 55133-3427
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833